

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings.

Claim 1 (Original): A computer-implemented method comprising steps of:

receiving identification information from a consumer;
identifying, based upon said received identification information, one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer; and
determining a time at which a promotion is to be provided based upon said identified one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer.

Claim 2 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a packaging of said received promotions received by said consumer.

Claim 3 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a time at which said promotions received were received by said consumer.

Claim 4 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a product class of said promotions received by said consumer.

Claim 5 (Original) : The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a product industry of said promotions received by said consumer.

Claim 6 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a location where said promotions

received can be exercised by said consumer.

Claim 7 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a value of said promotions received.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer relate to a validity date of said promotions received , such that said determining is based upon at least one validity date of promotions previously received by said consumer.

Claim 9 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a provision method of said promotions received.

Claim 10 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a other purchases necessary to exercise said promotions received.

Claim 11 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a nature of said promotions received.

Claim 12 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said one or more parameters related to said promotions received by said consumer relate to a promoter who is the source of said promotions received.

Claim 13 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of identifying one or more parameters comprises determining if said consumer is appropriate for said promotion, said

promotion being predetermined.

Claim 14 (Original): The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of providing said promotion at said determined time to said identified consumer.

Claim 15 (Original): The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of using said received identification information to identify said consumer.

Claim 16 (Original): The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of selecting a targeted promotion from a plurality of potential promotions based upon said one or more characteristics of said consumer, said determined time being for said targeted promotion.

Claim 17 (Original): The method according to claim 16, wherein said step of selecting said targeted promotion comprises matching said one or more characteristics of said consumer to a desired consumer profile.

Claim 18 (Original): The method according to claim 17, wherein said desired consumer profile originates from a promoter.

Claim 19 (Original): The method according to claim 1, further comprising a step of receiving a predetermined promotion from a promoter, said determined time being for said predetermined promotion.

Claim 20 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining said time at which said promotion is to be provided comprises determining a number of promotions recently received by said consumer.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 20, wherein said number of promotions recently received by said consumer ~~comprising~~ comprises promotions in a particular

industry that were recently received by said consumer.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 20, wherein said number of promotions recently received by said consumer ~~comprising~~ comprises promotions exercisable at a particular location that were recently received by said consumer.

Claim 23 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining said time at which said promotion is to be provided comprises determining a value of said promotions recently received by said consumer.

Claim 24 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining said time at which said promotion is to be provided comprises determining an importance of said provision of said promotion to a promoter.

Claim 25 (Original): The method according to claim 24, further comprising charging a promoter according to said importance of said provision of said promotion.

Claim 26 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining said time at which said promotion is to be provided comprises determining at least one of a demographic and a purchase history characteristic of said consumer.

Claim 27 (Original): The method according to claim 1, wherein said step of determining said time at which said promotion is to be provided comprises:

determining promotions recently received by said consumer;

determining at least one of a demographic and a purchase history characteristic of said consumer;

determining an importance of said provision of said promotion to a promoter; and

fusing said determined promotions recently received, said at least one of a demographic and a purchase history characteristic, and said importance of said provision into one parameter

related to said time at which said promotion is to be provided.

Claim 28 (Original): A system, comprising:

means for receiving identification information from a consumer;

means for identifying one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer based upon said identification information received by said means for receiving; and

means for determining a time at which a promotion is to be provided based upon said one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer, said one or more parameters identified by said means for identifying.

Claim 29 (Original): The system according to claim 28, wherein said one or more parameters of related to promotions received by said consumer comprising at least one of a timing, an industry, a class, a type, a packaging, a validity date, a valid location, other products that must be purchased to exercise, and a value of said promotions received by said consumer.

Claim 30 (Original): The system according to claim 28, further comprising means for providing said promotion at said time determined by said means for determining to said consumer identified by said means for identifying.

Claim 31 (Original): The system according to claim 28, further comprising means for selecting a targeted promotion from a plurality of potential promotions based upon said one or more characteristics of said consumer, said time determined by said means for determining being for said targeted promotion

Claim 32 (Original): The system according to claim 28, further comprising means for receiving a predetermined promotion from a promoter, said time determined by said means for determining being for said predetermined promotion.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): A system, comprising:

a consumer identification information receiver configured to receive consumer identification information;

a consumer identification record configured to contain stored consumer identification information;

a consumer characteristic record configured to contain a record of characteristics of said consumer;

a promotion output device configured to output a targeted promotion at a promotion time based at least in part based upon said record of characteristics of said consumer; and

a processor configured to use said received consumer identification information to identify a consumer using said stored consumer identification information, and moreover to determine said promotion time at least in part based upon said record of characteristics of said consumer contained in said consumer characteristic record.

Claim 34 (Original): The system according to claim 33, wherein:

said promotion output device comprises a network interface; and

said promotion comprises an electronic signal.

Claim 35 (Original): The system according to claim 33, wherein said consumer characteristic record comprises:

a received promotions record configured to contain a record related to received promotions received by said consumer.

Claim 36 (Original): The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion value record.

Claim 37 (Original): The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion validity date record.

Claim 38 (Original): The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record

comprises a received promotion valid location record.

Claim 39 (Original): The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion product class record.

Claim 40 (Original): The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion industry record.

Claim 41 (Original): The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion provision method record.

Claim 42 (Original): The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion packaging record.

Claim 43 (Original): The system according to claim 35, wherein said received promotions record comprises a received promotion time of receipt record.

Claim 44 (Original): The system according to claim 33, wherein said processor is further configured to select said targeted promotion from a plurality of potential promotions based upon said one or more characteristics of said consumer.

Claim 45 (Original): The system according to claim 33, further comprising a promotion receiver configured to receive a predetermined promotion from a promoter, said promotion time determined by said processor being for said predetermined promotion.

Claim 46 (Original): A computer readable medium containing program instructions for execution on a computer system, which when executed by the computer system, cause the computer system to perform the method recited in any one of claims 1 to 27.

Claim 47 (New): The method according to claim 1, wherein said promotions received by said consumer is embodied in a flier.

Claim 48 (New): The method according to claim 1, wherein said promotions received by said consumer is embodied in a newsletter.

Claim 49 (New): The method according to claim 1, wherein said promotions received by said consumers comprises a coupon.

Claim 50 (New): The method according to claim 1, wherein said promotions received by said consumers is embodied in a recipe.

Claim 51 (New): The system according to claim 28, wherein said promotions received by said consumer is embodied in a flier.

Claim 52 (New): The system according to claim 28, wherein said promotions received by said consumer is embodied in a newsletter.

Claim 53 (New): The system according to claim 28, wherein said promotions received by said consumer comprises a coupon.

Claim 54 (New): The system according to claim 28, wherein said promotions received by said consumer is embodied in a recipe.

Claim 55 (New): The system according to claim 33, wherein said targeted promotion is embodied in a flier.

Claim 56 (New): The system according to claim 33, wherein said targeted promotion is embodied in a newsletter.

Claim 57 (New): The system according to claim 33, wherein said targeted promotion comprises a coupon.

Claim 58 (New): The system according to claim 33, wherein said targeted promotion is embodied in a recipe.

Claim 59 (New): A computer-implemented method, comprising:

receiving identification information from a consumer at a vendor location site, comprising a vendor terminal, wherein said vendor terminal is located at a check-out counter in a store;

identifying, based upon said received identification information, one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer; and

determining a time at which a promotion is to be provided based upon said identified one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer.

Claim 60 (New): A system, comprising:

means for receiving identification information from a consumer at a vendor location site, which comprises a vendor terminal, wherein said vendor terminal is located at a check-out counter in a store;

means for identifying one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer based upon said identification information received by said means for receiving; and

means for determining a time at which a promotion is to be provided based upon said one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer, said one or more parameters identified by said means for identifying.

Claim 61 (New): A system, comprising:

a consumer identification information receiver at a vendor location site configured to receive consumer identification information from a consumer, wherein said vendor location site is a check-out counter in a store;

a consumer identification record configured to contain stored consumer identification information of said consumer;

a consumer characteristic record configured to contain a record of characteristics of said consumer;

a promotion output device configured to output a targeted promotion at a promotion time based at least in part upon said record of characteristics of said consumer; and

a processor configured to use said received consumer identification information to identify a consumer record using said stored consumer identification information, and to determine said promotion time at least in part based upon said record of characteristics of said consumer contained in said consumer characteristic record.

Claim 62 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein said identifying comprises identifying in a computer system.

Claim 63 (New): The method of claim 1, wherein said determining a time at which a promotion is to be provided based upon said identified one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer comprises determining in a computer system.

Claim 64 (New): The system of claim 28, wherein said means for identifying one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer based upon said identification information received by said means for receiving comprises means for identifying by a digital processor.

Claim 65 (New): The system of claim 28, wherein said means for determining a time at which a promotion is to be provided based upon said one or more parameters related to promotions received by said consumer, said one or more parameters identified by said means for identifying comprises means for determining by a digital processor.